

We Claim

1. A process for the isolation of oleanolic acid from the roots of *Lantana camara*, said process comprising the steps:
 - a) obtaining the dried root of *Lantana camara*,
 - b) grinding the dried root of step (a) to obtain root powder,
 - c) defattening the root powder with organic solvent for a period in the range of 6-12 hours at temperature in the range of 30-40°C three times with a solvent,
 - d) extracting the defattened root powder for a period in the range of 6 to 12 hours, at temperature in the range of 30-40°C three times with a solvent,
 - e) removing solvent from root powder and solvent mixture to obtain the crude extract, and
 - f) precipitating the crude extract followed by repeated partial crystallization of precipitate with a solvent to obtain the oleanolic acid.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in step (c) and (d) the solvent used is selected from a group comprising petroleum spirit, hexane, benzene, toluene and dichloromethane etc.
3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in step (e) the solvent removal is carried out under vacuum at temperature in the range of 35 to 45°C.
4. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in step (f) the precipitating and crystallizing solvents are selected from a group comprising dichloromethane, dichloroethane, chloroform, ethylacetate, diethyl ether, acetone, methanol, ethanol and H₂O.
5. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the yield of oleanolic acid is 1%.